

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO
EASTERN DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

vs.

No. CR-2-07-222(1)

JOSE MANUEL CAZARES CONTRERAS
a.k.a. Ramon Rodriguez Lopez
a.k.a. Carlos Flores Ruiz

JUDGE SARGUS

PLEA AGREEMENT

Plaintiff United States of America and Defendant JOSE MANUEL CAZARES CONTRERAS hereby enter into the following Plea Agreement pursuant to Rule 11(c) of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure:

1. Defendant JOSE MANUEL CAZARES CONTRERAS will enter pleas of guilty to Counts 1 and 2 of the Indictment herein which charges him, respectively, with:

a. in count 1, conspiracy to, possess with intent to distribute, and to distribute over 1 kilograms of heroin, in violation of 21 U.S.C. §§ 841(a)(1), 841(b)(1)(A)(i) and 846;

b. in count 2, conspiracy to distribute heroin, resulting in serious bodily injury or death, in violation of 21 U.S.C. §§ 841(a)(1), 841(b)(1)(C) and 846;

2. Defendant JOSE MANUEL CAZARES CONTRERAS understands the penalties that may be imposed pursuant to his pleas of guilty are as follows:

a. in count 1, a minimum term of ten (10) years imprisonment to a possible maximum term of life, a fine of

\$4,000,000.00, and a five (5) year term of supervised release;

b. in count 2, a mandatory term of imprisonment of twenty (20) years, to a possible maximum term of life, a fine of \$1,000,000.00, and a five (5) year term of supervised release.

3. Prior to or at the time of sentencing the defendant will pay to the U.S. Department of Justice a special assessment in the amount of \$200.00 as required in 18 U.S.C. §3013. This assessment shall be paid by the defendant before sentence is imposed and he will furnish a receipt at the time of sentencing. The payment shall be made to the United States District Court, at the Clerk's Office, 85 Marconi Boulevard, Columbus, Ohio 43215.

4. Defendant JOSE MANUEL CAZARES CONTRERAS agrees to testify truthfully and completely concerning all matters pertaining to the Indictment filed herein and to any and all other criminal activity to which he may have knowledge. Defendant further agrees to provide a complete statement to authorities of the United States concerning all matters related to the Indictment prior to the entry of his guilty pleas pursuant to this agreement. Defendant agrees to submit to supplemental debriefings when requested by authorities of the United States for the Southern District of Ohio, whether before or after his pleas are entered.

Pursuant to §1B1.8 of the Federal Sentencing Guidelines, the government agrees that any self-incriminating information so provided will not be used against the defendant in determining the applicable guideline range for sentencing, or as a basis for

upward departure from the guideline range.

5. If such pleas of guilty are entered, and not withdrawn, and the Defendant JOSE MANUEL CAZARES CONTRERAS acts in accordance with all other terms of this agreement, the United States Attorney for the Southern District of Ohio agrees to dismiss counts 3,4,5,6,7,8 and 9, of the Indictment, as they relate to the defendant, and not to file additional criminal charges against Defendant JOSE MANUEL CAZARES CONTRERAS based on his activities charged in the Indictment or based on other narcotics violations in the Southern District of Ohio occurring prior to the date of the Indictment and as to which Defendant gives testimony or makes statements pursuant to this agreement.

6. By virtue of his guilty pleas to Counts 1 and 2 of the Indictment, in exchange for the United States's dismissal of the remaining counts, the defendant understands that he is not a prevailing party as defined by 18 U.S.C. §3006A and hereby expressly waives his right to sue the United States.

7. Defendant understands that this agreement does not protect him from prosecution for perjury, should he testify untruthfully, or for making false statements, nor does it protect him from prosecution for other crimes or offenses which the United States discovers by independent investigation. Further, should Defendant JOSE MANUEL CAZARES CONTRERAS fail to comply fully with the terms and conditions set forth herein or should he fail to appear as required for sentencing, this agreement is void and of no effect, and Defendant shall be subject to prosecution

as if the agreement had never been made.

8. For sentencing purposes, it is agreed by the parties, that with respect to the Indictment:

(1) relevant conduct pursuant to U.S.S.G. §2D1.1(a)(3) and U.S.S.G. §1B1.3 is between 1 kilogram but less than 3 kilograms of heroin;

(2) the United States Attorney for the Southern District of Ohio recommends that as of the time of the execution of this Plea Agreement the defendant has accepted responsibility for the offense to which he has agreed to plead guilty. If the defendant continues to accept responsibility through the time of sentencing, the United States will make a motion pursuant to U.S.S.G. § 3E1.1(b) stating to the District Court that the defendant has timely notified authorities of his intention to plead guilty;

(3) The parties understand that all provisions of this paragraph are not binding upon the district court and that final determination of all sentencing issues herein rests with the district court.

9. The defendant, JOSE MANUEL CAZARES CONTRERAS, is aware that, in light of United States v. Booker, 125 S.Ct. 738 (2005), the United States Sentencing Guidelines are advisory and are no longer mandatory. The defendant is aware that the Court has jurisdiction and authority to impose any sentence within the statutory maximum set forth for the offense to which the defendant pleads guilty. The defendant is aware that the Court has not yet determined a sentence. The defendant is further aware that any estimate of a probable sentencing range that the defendant may have received, or may receive in the future, from his counsel, the United States, or the probation office is a prediction, not a promise, and is not binding on the United

States, the Probation Department or the Court. The United States makes no promise or representation concerning the sentence that the defendant will receive, and the defendant cannot withdraw a guilty plea based upon the actual sentence.

10. It is agreed that if the Court refuses to accept any provision of this Plea Agreement, with the exception of paragraph 8, neither party is bound by any of its provisions, Defendant JOSE MANUEL CAZARES CONTRERAS may withdraw his guilty pleas, and the United States Attorney for the Southern District of Ohio may pursue prosecution of the same or additional charges without prejudice. In such case, it is also agreed that any self-incriminating statements made by the Defendant, pursuant to this agreement, shall be considered a part of plea negotiations and subject to the restrictions of Rule 11(f) of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure.

11. Finally, the United States Attorney for the Southern District of Ohio agrees that if Defendant provides substantial assistance in the investigation and/or prosecution of others who have committed criminal offenses, the United States Attorney may move the court pursuant to 18 U.S.C. §3553(e) and/or §5K1.1 of the Federal Sentencing Guidelines for an appropriate departure from the otherwise applicable guideline range for Defendant's sentence and will in connection therewith make known to the Court the nature and extent of Defendant's assistance. Defendant understands that whether such motion should be made lies within

the discretion of the United States Attorney and that whether and to what extent such motion should be granted are solely matters for determination by the Court.

12. No additional promises, agreements, or conditions have been made relative to this matter other than those expressly set forth herein, and none will be made unless in writing and signed by all Parties.

Date

JOSE MANUEL CAZARES CONTRERAS
Defendant

Date

ROGER KOECK
Attorney for Defendant

GREGORY G. LOCKHART
United States Attorney

Date

DAVID DEVILLERS (00594456)
Assistant U.S. Attorney